

Title: The Fleeting Moment

SCRIPTURES - KJV

- James 1:22-25
- Matthew 7:21-27
- Romans 2:13-15
- Luke 6:46-49

Purpose

To understand how true change and effective development comes from applying what we hear and read in God's Word.

Definition of Fleeting - Lasting for a very short time, momentary, brief, or short-lived.



Have you ever read an encouraging post on Facebook, or get a powerful daily devotional, or even read a scripture and thought... "I need to work on this in my life?" Then later that day, perhaps just a few hours later, you completely forget what you read.

Let me be the first to raise my hand. Some information seems so good we when hear it or read it but as the title says, the moment is fleeting or short lived. This week we will concentrate on how to take what we hear and actually do something with it.

Let's get started with some scriptures that will help us understand the effects of being a hearer only and not a doer...

Scripture #1: James 1:22-25 breakdown

v. 22 - We only deceive ourselves when we only hear the word and don't do anything

v. 23 - When we do the word and don't just hear it, as we will read later in Luke 6, Jesus said that when we hear what He says and do it, he will show us what type of man/woman we are.

v. 24 - Question, what person do you know, looks in the mirror, sees a big pimple on their forehead and does nothing about it? Just goes about their business...

*The mirror showed you what was abnormal or out of place and what needed your attention... the pimple!

**The Word of God shows us what needs to be developed in us spiritually. We can read a devotional, say a prayer, read a Facebook post, or get a daily bible verse but if for a moment we look into the mirror of the Word and then go about our day without inviting God to show us how to apply what we have read or heard... that moment is short-lived. Hence the phrase "The Fleeting Moment."

v. 25 - The key phrase in this verse is "shall be blessed in his deed."

BLESSED in this case = **DEVELOPMENT - GROWTH - SPIRITUAL PROGRESS**

We were created to be in a constant state of development. Spiritual growth is vital to your physical, mental, and emotional health. Spiritual care IS self care!

PHILLIPIANS 1:6 - *"Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."*



Scripture #2: Matthew 7:21-23 breakdown

v. 21 - Jesus is speaking, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven"

So, in this verse there is a "but" which can be used as "only"... look at the second part of the verse

"but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

v. 22 - Even if you have been out here representing Jesus, prophesying, casting out demons, and doing great works doesn't mean that you get a free pass to heaven.

v. 23 - He will say to you that he never even knew you. WOW! That's harsh right.

EXAMPLE: *Imagine two friends who grew up together and one of them was on a road to fame. The other friend was there to kick it with him, go to the clubs, and go to out of town events but when his friend needed to talk about some problems he had, he was never there to support him or truly develop the friendship. Then the day he steps into riches, houses, cars, and fame, he tells his friend, "I never knew you!"*

After all that time and all that effort, he stuck around waiting for his friend's big break and he was cut off. Why? Because representing a person (Jesus) and truly knowing them (hearing and doing what they ask/need of you) are two different things.

v. 24 - Wise men/women listen and then do...

v. 25 - Rock is solid and a house founded on a rock will withstand the storm.

***God doesn't just give us His Word to look at, we are supposed to use it to help us in life**

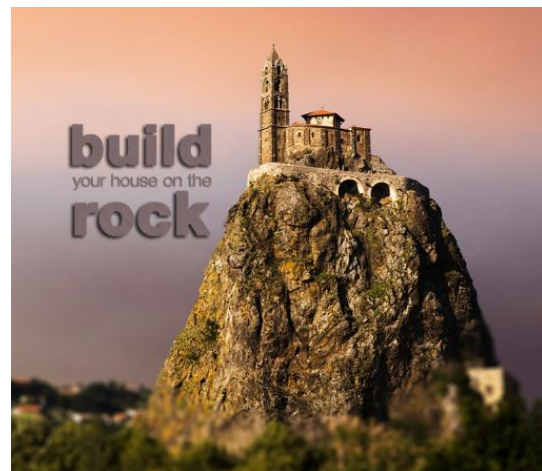
v. 26 - Foolish men/women listen and don't do anything... If you have ever went to a beach, you probably built a sand house. It's not solid and over time, the tide eventually washes it away.

v. 27 - Why would the fall of the house built on sand be "great?"

Remember Humpty Dumpty? He was an egg that had a great fall. He put himself in a position, knowing that he was fragile and unfortunately fell and incurred irreversible damage.

*In the same way our fall will be great if we "build our house" or our whole life on a unstable foundation and think that it will withstand powerful storms. As Jesus said, this is what foolish people do. They continue to hear the word of God, look in the mirror of truth and then don't apply what they have heard to their life. No spiritual growth means no gift development and in the end the storm could wipe us out.

SAND



Scripture #3: Romans 2:13-15 breakdown

v. 13 - It's not the hearers that are just/honorable before God... but the doers

v. 14 - We are Gentiles and are not bound by the Ten Commandments or the law. But we do "by nature" what God requires of us, not because the law says we have to. As cited in Ephesians 2:8, "*For by grace ye are saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*"

****We are a law unto ourselves - God gave us free will to do and to choose what we want. That is why the parable Jesus spoke about were about men who made 2 different choices. If you choose not to do what God says and then when you get to the gates of heaven and God doesn't let you in... you can't get mad... you made the decision.**

v. 15 - The law of God's requirements for us in this time is our will or heart attitude to do what God wants us to do out of our love and gratitude toward Him. The **conscience** or by definition "**an inner feeling or voice viewed as acting as a guide to the rightness or wrongness of one's behavior**" (Oxford Dictionaries)

*Your thoughts are either going to accuse or excuse your behavior based on your conscience. Hence the term... "guilty conscience."

****Don't confuse the chastisement (correction) or conviction of the Holy Spirit to do what's right with the feelings of guilt and accusations of the enemy. God judges the hearts of men.**

I Samuel 16:7 - "*But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance (appearance), or on the height of his stature (reputation - position in life); because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.*"



Scripture #4: Luke 6:46-49 breakdown

v. 46 - Jesus is speaking... he basically saying, "why are you calling on me and do not do the things that I say?"

EXAMPLE: Why would a child ask their parents for money, candy, or to play with their friends when they haven't even cleaned their room like their parents asked them to do.

v. 47 - You heard what Jesus said in the word/bible and you are doing them. Jesus will now give you an example of who you are like...

v. 48 - The "Doer" builds his house on a solid rock foundation. As we read in Matthew. An **UNSHAKEABLE** foundation!

v. 49 - The "Non-Doer" doesn't build his house on any foundation and it fell immediately to great ruin.

SUMMARY

Fleeting moments are only temporary encouragement and motivation. Unless you act on what you hear or read, no change or development will take place. The same is true for the word of God. If you read scriptures or sit in church and listen to Pastor but don't implement the Word of God in your life, you will not experience spiritual growth. You will remain the same as you were before. You will not be able to overcome your problems and situations. You will not be able to experience the joy and happiness of God's love. You will not be able to experience the peace and rest of God's love. You will not be able to experience the power and authority of God's love. You will not be able to experience the love and grace of God's love. You will not be able to experience the mercy and compassion of God's love. You will not be able to experience the kindness and gentleness of God's love. You will not be able to experience the faithfulness and loyalty of God's love. You will not be able to experience the righteousness and holiness of God's love. You will not be able to experience the wisdom and knowledge of God's love. You will not be able to experience the beauty and glory of God's love. You will not be able to experience the majesty and grandeur of God's love. You will not be able to experience the awe and wonder of God's love. You will not be able to experience the glory and honor of God's love. You will not be able to experience the praise and worship of God's love. You will not be able to experience the love and grace of God's love. You will not be able to experience the mercy and compassion of God's love. You will not be able to experience the kindness and gentleness of God's love. You will not be able to experience the faithfulness and loyalty of God's love. You will not be able to experience the righteousness and holiness of God's love. You will not be able to experience the wisdom and knowledge of God's love. You will not be able to experience the beauty and glory of God's love. You will not be able to experience the majesty and grandeur of God's love. You will not be able to experience the awe and wonder of God's love. You will not be able to experience the glory and honor of God's love. You will not be able to experience the praise and worship of God's love.

CgW[a` efa fZ]] Stagf1

#ž : ai aXWVa; dSVSeUj bfgdWaf[a` S1ZVdSeW a` hi SfUZSh[Waf ad
^] VSeUj^_ W[Sbaef TMSgeWf [eVSLfki ZSf; ` WWWfa ZVdI
Sž : ai aXWVa; XdWVi ZSf; yVMSVVSkeadVWZagde` SfWl
%ž 6a; Ya fa fZVIT`VS` V^aa] XideUj bfgdWfa ZWb_ WWWab_ keZadfa_ [` Ye
adfZ[` YefZSf9aV_ S]W] ` ai ` fa_ kZVdI
&ž 3_ ; Ua_ XidST`W [fZ fZWVWa` ; ZShVWVa_ VVa; US[fZSf [fye `gef_ k
bWVa` S[fk` ad; S_ `gef ^] W_ k_ a_ adSVI`
' ž 3dWkag Ychi [` Yeb[dfgS`k1
(ž I [^kagd^XW [fZefS` VfZWbWegdWafZVfad_ efa Ua_ W
)ž 3dWkag Va[` Yi ZSf9aVSe] eaXkag [` : [ei adVadVa kag `gef ZVdI f1
*ž 6a kag Se] 9aVfa ZWb kag Ychi S` VS^ai Z[fa Ua` f[gVZWVaaVi ad [`
kagdfZSf: VVVS` i ZWkag Yaf eShW1
+ž : ai US` kag eSdf fa fZ]] V[XXWf`kS` V`Vsd fa `af `gef ZShVXWV` Y
_ a_ Wfe` Tgf S [XW_ VaXWVab_ Wf [` adWifa Xg`X^kagdbgdbaeW

3 ACTIONS TO AVOID FLEETING MOMENTS

- 1) **IDENTIFY** - When you read a scripture, devotional, or hear an encouraging word... ask yourself, "why did this encourage me?" or "what am I going through right now?"
- 2) **ASK** - Ask the Holy Spirit to help you overcome the problem or situation, open your heart to God in prayer and admit any wrongdoing on your part. Repent of it and be patience as God develops you and helps you through it.
- 3) **SEARCH** - Search the scriptures or Google a bible verse opposite of the problem or situation you are facing. For example, if you are dealing with depression, look for a scripture about joy, happiness, or God's love. Read the scripture, write it down, and then speak it over yourself daily.